

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace Paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

A1 This application claims ~~priority~~ the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) ~~to~~ of U.S. Application Serial No. 60/256,488 filed on December 20, 2000; the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Please replace paragraph [0003] with the following amended paragraph:

A2 In order to prevent the risk of leakage at the side edges of an absorbent product, some absorbent products have what are known as standing or raised leakage barriers, also referred to as inner liquid barriers, standing barriers or cuffs, in most cases fastened in association with a liquid-permeable surface layer on the product. The function of the leakage barrier is to prevent liquid leaking out at the edges of the absorbent product and, if appropriate, to prevent leakage of solids such as ~~motions~~ excrement. These leakage barriers are located inside the leg elastic, which shapes the product and constitutes an outer liquid barrier, also referred to as the outer leakage barrier, and are usually made of an essentially liquid-impermeable material, for example fiber fabric, which is also known as non-woven. Sometimes, the barriers can also be made of liquid-permeable material. The leakage barriers are formed by a web, one longitudinal edge of which is fastened to the absorbent product and the other, free edge of which is intended to bear against the wearer. The free edge is elastically gathered by means of an elastic thread which is incorporated into the edge of the web. Examples of absorbent articles with leakage barriers (or what are known as liquid barriers) are described in, for example, WO-A1-9207533, US 4695278, US

A2 5064489, SE-T3-0264238 and GB-A-2188532. When the absorbent product has leakage barriers arranged inside flexible side flaps on both sides of the absorption body of the product, it is usual for the surface material between the two inner leakage barriers, that is to say in the liquid-receiving area, to be liquid-permeable, while the surface material outside the leakage barriers is essentially liquid-impermeable.

Kindly replace Paragraph [0016] with the following amended paragraph:

Other types of binders which could be used include waxes, oils or paraffins. Certain compositions which are today commonly included in, *inter alia*, lotions and skincare products can also be used (this does not exclude the possibility of considering using lotions and skincare products in their entirety, for example CAREMELT[®], Henkel-Cognis, Sweden). Such compositions often have relatively low melting points which can easily be varied by changing the content in the composition. Suitable compositions can contain substances from groups consisting of glycerides, C₁₄-C₂₂ fatty alcohols, C₁₂-C₂₂ fatty acids and C₁₂-C₂₂ fatty alcohol ethoxylates with a degree of ethoxylation of roughly 2 to roughly 30, or derivatives thereof. In most cases, animal and vegetable oils contain a mixture of various saturated and unsaturated fatty acids. A person skilled in the art is very familiar with the possibility of influencing the melting point by increasing and/or decreasing the quantity of fatty acids in similar compositions, see table 1 and table 2 (values obtained from CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics 75th edition 1994-1995 p. 7-28, 7-29).

Kindly replace Paragraph [0041] with the following amended paragraph:

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The leakage barriers 15, 16 are preferably essentially liquid-impermeable in order to prevent liquid from leaking out, principally in the crotch portion 3. As mentioned above, it can be a problem in the product on a wearer that the leakage barriers 15, 16 have a tendency to end up in the wrong place, that is to say to be folded in over the absorption body 9 and the surface layer 10 and thus to block these from the liquid and the ~~motions~~ excrement discharged by the wearer. This problem is eliminated as, according to the claimed invention, the second edge 17, 18 of the leakage barriers 15, 16 is folded down, and the first surface 41, 42 or second surface 43, 44 of the leakage barriers is fastened to the first surface layer 10 and/or the second surface layer 39 preferably near to the crotch portion 3 by a binder 50 which loses its adhesive and/or cohesive capacity during use of the absorbent product. The leakage barriers 15, 16 are then raised.

Kindly replace Paragraph [0048] with the following amended paragraph:

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Fig. 5a shows another embodiment of the invention before use, where the leakage barrier 15 and its stretchable second edge 17 are folded down against the second surface layer 39 near to the crotch portion 3, away from the longitudinal center line 38 of the product. The first surface 41 of the leakage barrier 15 is fastened by a binder, which loses its adhesive and/or cohesive capacity during use, away from the first surface layer 10, to the side flap 11 near to the crotch portion 3. In the cross-section of the diaper, the lower, liquid-impermeable backing layer 8, the absorption body 9, the first, liquid-permeable surface layer 10 and the second, liquid-impermeable surface layer 39 can be seen. A part of a longitudinal edge 4 and a transverse edge 6, the front end 25 of a side flap, and the

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end ~~15e~~ 15a of the leakage barrier, which end is folded down flat away from the first surface layer 10, can also be seen. A second line 28 extends to a certain extent in the direction of the longitudinal center line 38 of the product, the end ~~15e~~ 15a of the folded-down leakage barrier being fastened to the second surface layer 39 along this second line. The fastening is suitably effected by gluing or welding, for example ultrasonic welding. It is also possible for the entire area ~~15e~~ 15a, between the first line 29 and the second line 28, to be fastened to the second surface layer 39 in the same manner, or only the first line 29 or alternatively the first line 29 and the second line 28 can be fastened in the same manner.

Kindly replace Paragraph [0056] with the following amended paragraph:

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The invention therefore relates to an absorbent product with improved characteristics with regard to the positioning of the leakage barriers 15, 16 and the design for putting the product on the wearer. The leakage barriers 15, 16 and their stretchable second edge 17, 18 are folded down away from and/or towards the longitudinal side edge 4, 5 of the product towards and/or away from the longitudinal center line 38 of the product. The first surface 41, 42 and/or second surface 43, 44 of the leakage barriers 15, 16 are fastened near to the side flaps 11, 12 and the first surface layer 10 and/or second surface layer 39 near to the crotch portion 3 by a binder 50 which loses its adhesive and/or cohesive capacity during use of the product. The folding down of the leakage barriers 15, 16 reduces the risk of the leakage barriers positioning themselves over the liquid-permeable surface layer 10 and thus minimizing bodily fluids and ~~motions~~ excrement from the wearer from reaching the absorption body 9. The risk of leakage of bodily fluids, ~~motions~~

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CONT excrement, unpleasant sensations and skin irritations on account of close contact with
~~motions~~ excrement, etc. is therefore reduced.
